

Subject: ALS Medication – Paramedic (Local Optional Scope ONLY)
Furosemide (Lasix) Administration Policy

I. Class
Diuretic.

II. Indications

- A. Severe Congestive Heart Failure (CHF) with previous history, and:
- B. Patient transport time is anticipated to exceed 45 minutes.
- C. The use of nitroglycerine and CPAP mask device have not resulted in adequate patient improvement.
- D. The patient has a history of CHF and is currently prescribed diuretics (i.e., furosemide or bumetanide).
- E. The patient is afebrile.
- F. The patient is normotensive or hypertensive.

III. Therapeutic Effects

- A. Stimulates kidneys to excrete water, salt and potassium which lead to decreased circulating blood volume.
- B. Produces vasodilation.
- C. Very potent with slow onset of 30-120 minutes.

IV. Contraindications

- A. Absolute:
 - 1. Dehydration.
 - 2. Pregnancy.
 - 3. Suspected or known infectious, drug related or non-cardiac causes of pulmonary edema.
- B. Relative:
 - 1. None

V. Administration and Dosage

Adult

- A. 40 mg slow IV over 1-2 minutes initial dose.
- B. Additional dosing requires Verbal Base Order.

VI. Special Information

- A. Adverse effects can include cardiac dysrhythmias due to hypokalemia.
- B. Hypotension due to hypovolemia.
- C. Sulfonamide sensitive persons may develop an allergic reaction.

VII. Base Orders

Standing Order if no contraindications exist.

**ONLY TO BE USED BY PROVIDER AGENCIES WITH PRIOR NORTH
COAST EMS APPROVAL.**